

July 22, 2013

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Dear Interested Party:

The City of Caliente (Subapplicant), Lincoln County, Nevada has applied through the Nevada Division of Emergency Management (NDEM) (Grantee) to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for funding to construct a settling basin, reconstruct approximately 0.5 mile of paved roadway to include storm drains and gutters, and provide a sediment disposal site (Figure 1) to alleviate flooding problems caused by high-magnitude storm events in the City of Caliente. The funding would be provided through FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program. The primary objective of the flood control project is to reduce the recurrence interval of damage-causing flood events by increasing the flood carrying capacity of the roadway and downstream storm water system, to lessen the damage caused by flood events, and to reduce the post-flood cleanup work.

An environmental assessment (EA) will be prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to provide the decision-making framework that 1) analyzes a reasonable range of alternatives to meet the project purpose, 2) evaluates issues and impacts to local resources and values, and 3) identifies mitigation measures to lessen the degree or extent of any identified impact.

The alternatives to be evaluated would include, at a minimum, the analysis of the following:

- 1. No action. FEMA would not provide financial assistance and the flood control project would not be constructed. Flooding would continue to cause damage and incur substantial costs for clean up at regular intervals.
- 2. Fund the project as proposed. FEMA would provide funding and the flood control project would be constructed. The project would include reconstruction of 0.5 miles of roadway to maximize its surface water carrying capacity, construction of an upstream settling basin to capture sediment and debris, use of a sediment disposal site, and improvements to the storm drain system to increase its capacity.

FEMA, NDEM, and the City of Caliente encourage public participation throughout the environmental review process. We invite the community, stakeholders, and public agencies to

NEPA Scoping Letter July 22, 2013 Page 2

provide written suggestions, comments, and concerns about the project and what should be analyzed in the EA. The comment period for this proposal will remain open until August 22, 2013.

You may submit your comments relating to the proposed project by mailing or emailing written comments to Ms. Donna M. Meyer, CEM/HPS, Deputy Regional Environmental Officer, FEMA Region IX, 1111 Broadway, Suite 1200, Oakland, CA 94607, or donna.meyer@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Donna M. Meyer, CEM/HPS

Deputy Regional Environmental Officer

Non-Disaster Grant Programs

Enclosures

